

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of providing an automatic route selection
2 (ARS) service comprising the steps of:
3 implementing an ARS table in a location
4 external to a telephone switch;
5 operating a service control point to access
6 said ARS table and to determine as a function of
7 information included therein a route index; and
8 transmitting a message to a signal switching
9 point including the route index.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the signal switching
2 point is a telephone switch which is coupled to a
3 plurality of trunks over which calls can be routed, the
4 method further comprising:
5 operating said telephone switch to route a call
6 over a trunk identified by the route index included in
7 said message.

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein said message is one
2 of a Forward_Call message and an Analyze_Route message.

1 4. The method of claim 2, further comprising:
2 using a conditional logic operation performed
3 by said service control point in addition to information
4 included in the ARS table to determine the route index
5 from a plurality of possible route indices.

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1 5. The method of claim 3, wherein said ARS table is
2 implemented at said service control point.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said ARS table
2 includes route selection information for a first ARS
3 service subscriber, the method further comprising:
4 providing an additional ARS table in said
5 telephone switch, the additional ARS table also including
6 route selection information for the first ARS service
7 subscriber; and

8 using said additional ARS table to perform an
9 automatic route selection operation when providing a
10 switch based telephone service to the first ARS service
11 subscriber.

1 7. A method of providing an automatic route selection
2 service using a service control point, the method
3 comprising:

4 receiving automatic route selection service
5 information corresponding to a service subscriber; and
6 selecting a method for implementing the
7 automatic route selection service for the service
8 subscriber, from a plurality of different implementation
9 methods, as a function of type of telephone switch which
10 serves as an end office switch for said service
11 subscriber, a first one of the plurality of different
12 implementation methods using a switch based automatic
13 route selection table, a second one of the plurality of

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14 different implementation methods using a non-switch based
15 automatic route selection table; and
16 incorporating automatic route selection
17 information used to implement the selected automatic
18 route selection method into a call processing record
19 accessible by a service control point.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the non-switch based
2 automatic route selection table is implemented in a
3 service control point.

1 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising, following
2 said incorporating step when said second method of
3 implementing an automatic route selection service is
4 selected:

5 operating the service control point to
6 determine from an automatic route selection table, using
7 call information received from a telephone switch, a
8 telephone trunk identifier; and
9 transmitting the telephone trunk identifier
10 determined from the automatic route selection table to a
11 telephone switch.

1 10. The method of claim 9,
2 wherein the telephone trunk identifier is a
3 route index; and
4 wherein the transmitted message is one of a
5 Forward_Call message and an Analyze_Route message.

1 11. The method of claim 8, wherein selecting a method
2 for implementing the automatic route selection service
3 for the service subscriber, is further performed as a
4 function of the complexity of the automatic route
5 selection logic required to provide the automatic route
6 selection service to the service subscriber.

1 12. A system for providing an automatic route selection
2 service to an automatic route selection service
3 subscriber, the system comprising:
4 a telephone switch coupled to a telephony
5 device used by said subscriber; and
6 a service control point coupled to said
7 telephone switch, the service control point including
8 control logic used to access a non-switch based automatic
9 route selection table as part of a service control point
10 based automatic route selection service provided to said
11 service subscriber.

1 13. The system of claim 12, wherein the service control
2 point includes said non-switch based automatic route
3 selection table.

1 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the non-switch based
2 automatic route selection table includes at least one
3 portion of a telephone number and a corresponding route
4 index.

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1 15. The system of claim 15, wherein the route index
2 identifies at least one trunk line coupled to said
3 telephone switch.

1 16. The system of claim 15, wherein said telephone
2 switch includes a switch based automatic route selection
3 table used by said switch to provide a switch based
4 automatic route selection service to said service
5 subscriber.

1 17. The system of claim 16, further comprising:
2 an advanced intelligent network trigger set at
3 said switch, the advanced intelligent network trigger
4 being responsive to calls initiated by said subscriber;
5 and

6 means for sending a message to the service
7 control point in response to activation of said trigger.

1 18. The system of claim 17,
2 wherein at least a portion of said control
3 logic is included in a call processing record associated
4 with the service subscriber; and

5 wherein said service control point includes:

6 means for accessing the call
7 processing record associated with the service
8 subscriber in response to a message sent from
9 said switch in response to activation of said
10 trigger.

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1 19. The system of claim 18, wherein the service control
2 point is implemented as part of an integrated service
3 control point, the integrated service control point
4 further including:

5 means for selecting a method for implementing
6 the automatic route selection service for the service
7 subscriber, from a plurality of different implementation
8 methods, as a function of type of telephone switch which
9 serves as an end office switch for said service
10 subscriber, a first one of the plurality of different
11 implementation methods using a switch based automatic
12 route selection table, a second one of the plurality of
13 different implementation methods using a non-switch based
14 automatic route selection table.